

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
 (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference N89300 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	
	See item 4 below	
International application No. PCT/EP2005/002934	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 18 March 2005 (18.03.2005)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22 March 2004 (22.03.2004)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

Date of issuance of this report 26 September 2006 (26.09.2006)	
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Authorized officer Agnes Wittmann-Regis e-mail: pt06@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

REC'D 29 JUN 2005

PCT WPO

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To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/002934

International filing date (day/month/year)
18.03.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
22.03.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B65H5/26, B65H5/36

Applicant
EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43b/s.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the International application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the International application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1b/s(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/002934

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material:

a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material:

in written format
 in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing:

contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form..
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/002934

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or
Industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	2,4,6
	No:	Claims	1,3,5
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	4,6
	No:	Claims	2
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-6
	No:	Claims	,

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/002934

Citations

The following documents (D) are referred to in this preliminary opinion; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: US-B1-6 325 369 (STRUXT JOHN R) 4 December 2001 (2001-12-04)
D2: US-A-5 852 971 (YUYAMA ET AL) 29 December 1998 (1998-12-29)
D3: EP-A-0 627 671 (XEROX CORPORATION; XEROX CORP) 7 December 1994 (1994-12-07)

V. Explanations supporting reasoned statement under Rule 66(a)(II) with regard to novelty, inventive step or Industrial applicability;

- 1 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1, 3 and 5 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
 - 1.1 The document D1 discloses (see figures, the references in parentheses applying to this document) a sheet delivery device for a printing machine, preferably for an electrophotographically operating printing machine, comprising a transfer path on which sheets are transported from a path entry (21, 21') of said transfer path to a path exit (24) of said transfer path via said transfer path, wherein
 - a specific height level is assigned to the path exit (24), while the path entry (21, 21') is configured in a height-variable manner (cf. Claim 1);
 - the horizontal distance between the path exit (24) and the path entry (21, 21') is independent of the height adjustment of the path entry (21, 21')(cf. Claim 2); and
 - at least one position-variable deflecting element (44) for the sheets to be transported (cf. Claim 5).
 - 1.2 Furthermore the documents D2 and D3 disclose also all the features of claims 1 and 3, and therefore the subject-matter of these claims is also considered not new.
- 2 Dependent claim 2 does not contain any features which, in combination with the features of claim 1, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect inventive step, see documents D2 and D3. It is obvious for the skilled person to select, in accordance with circumstances, without the exercise of inventive skill, the features of claim 2 in the context of the apparatus disclosed in these documents,

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3 The combination of the features of dependent claims 4 and 6 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art.